

Advanced Algorithms

(Martingales and the Method of Bounded Differences)

(Some) Concentration Inequalities

Question: probability that X deviates more than δ from expectation?

For independent r.v. $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \in \{0, 1\}$,
let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, and $\mu = \mathbb{E}(X)$, then:

for any $\delta > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq (1 + \delta)\mu) \leq \left(\frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right)^\mu$$

for $0 < \delta < 1$,

$$\mathbb{P}(X \leq (1 - \delta)\mu) \leq \left(\frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1-\delta)^{(1-\delta)}} \right)^\mu$$

For independent r.v. X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n where $X_i \in [a_i, b_i]$,
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$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq \mathbb{E}(X) + t) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{2t^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (b_i - a_i)^2}\right)$$

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Conditional Probability

The *conditional probability* that event \mathcal{E}_1 occurs, given that event \mathcal{E}_2 occurs, is:

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_1|\mathcal{E}_2) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_1 \wedge \mathcal{E}_2)}{\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_2)}$$

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$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_1|\mathcal{E}_2) = \frac{1/6}{1/2} = \frac{1}{3}$$

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The *conditional expectation* of a random variable Y with respect to an event \mathcal{E} is:

$$\mathbb{E}(Y \mid \mathcal{E}) = \sum_y y \cdot \mathbb{P}(Y = y \mid \mathcal{E})$$

In particular, if the event \mathcal{E} is $X = x$, then:

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Y : height of the chosen human being

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Fundamental Facts about Conditional Expectation

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once X is fixed to some x ,

$$\mathbb{E}(f(X)g(X, Y) | X = x) = f(x)\mathbb{E}(g(X, Y) | X = x)$$

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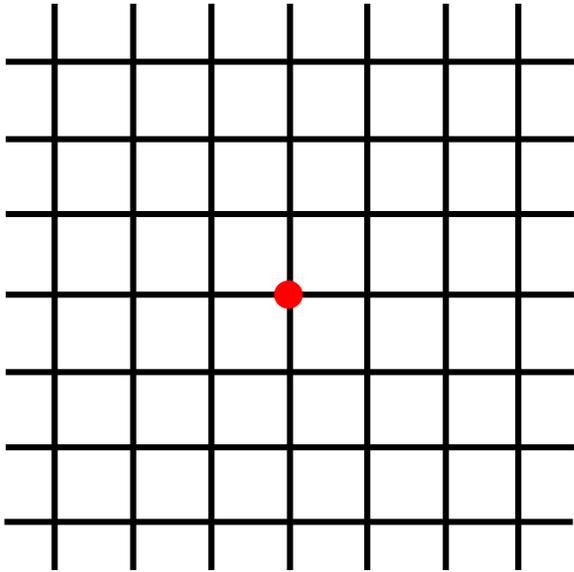
since the game is **fair**, conditioned on past history, we expect **no change** to current value after one round

Martingales

A sequence of random variables X_0, X_1, \dots is a martingale if for all $i \geq 1$,

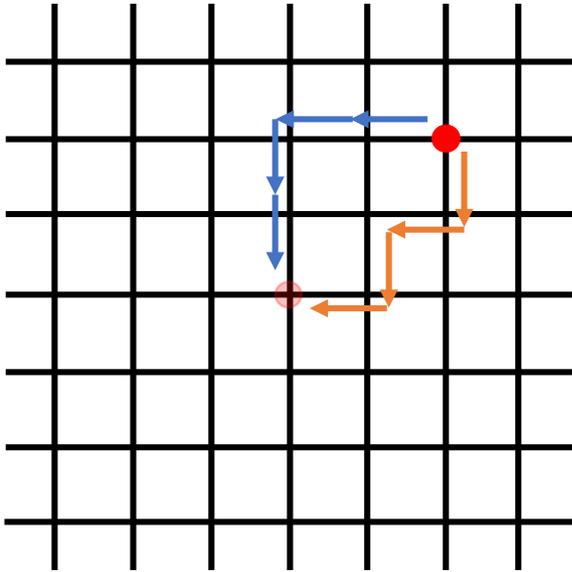
$$\mathbb{E}(X_i \mid X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = X_{i-1}$$

Example: Random Walk



a dot starting from the origin
in each step, move equiprobably
to one of four neighbor

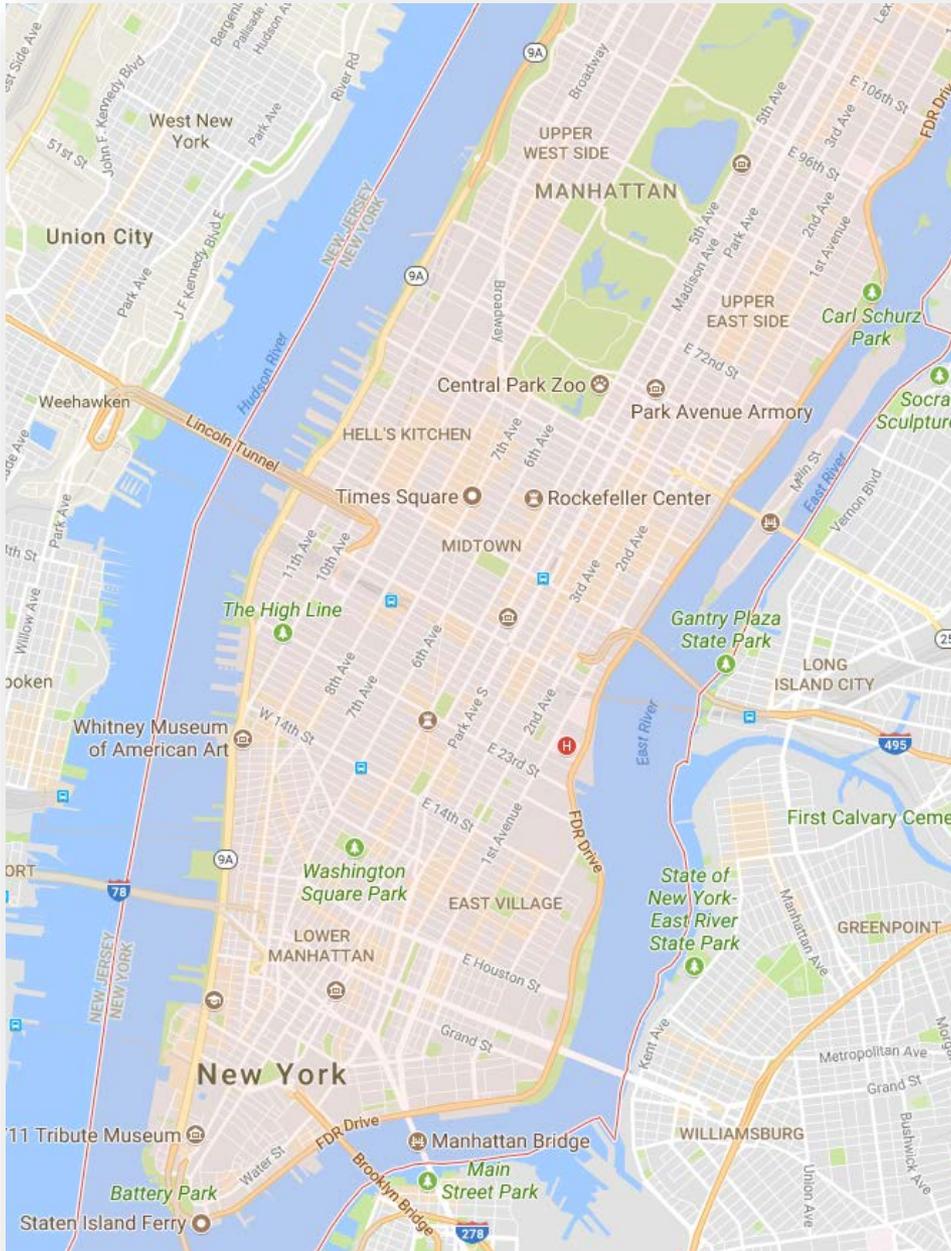
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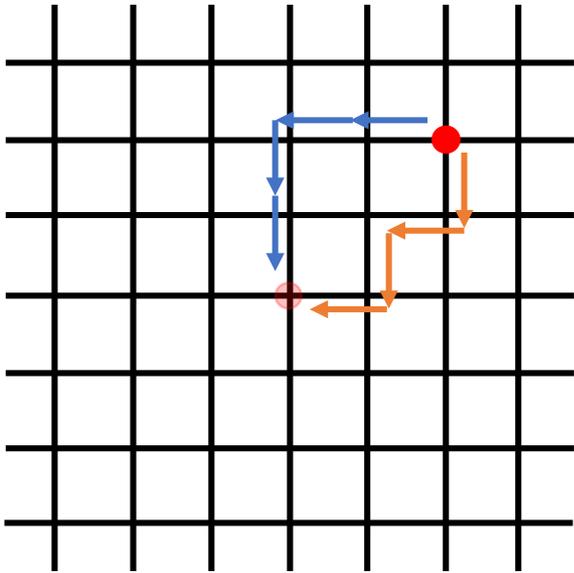
after i steps, use X_i to denote
of hops to origin (Manhattan distance)



Random Walk

Not starting from the origin
At each step, move equiprobably
to one of four neighbors
After i steps, use X_i to denote
distance to origin (Manhattan distance)

Example: Random Walk



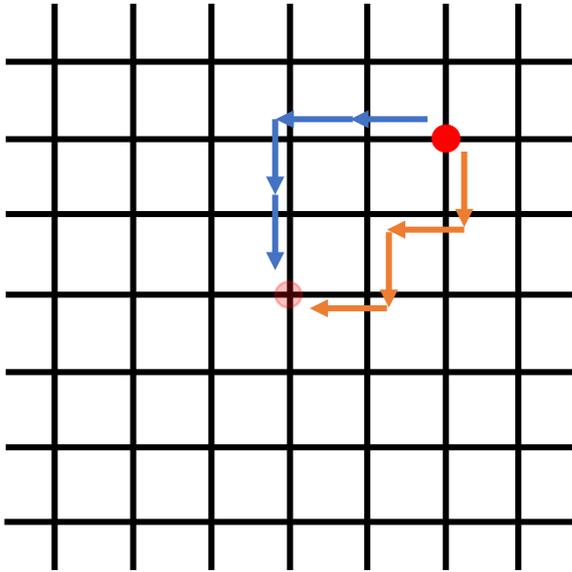
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How far the dot is away from the origin after n steps?

Azuma's Inequality

Let X_0, X_1, \dots be a martingale such that for all $k \geq 1$,

$$|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq c_k$$

Then,

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_0| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{k=1}^n c_k^2}\right)$$

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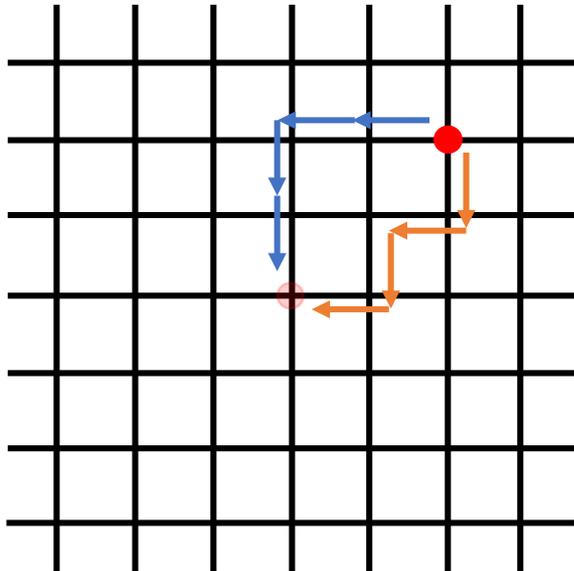
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X_0, X_1, \dots are not necessarily independent

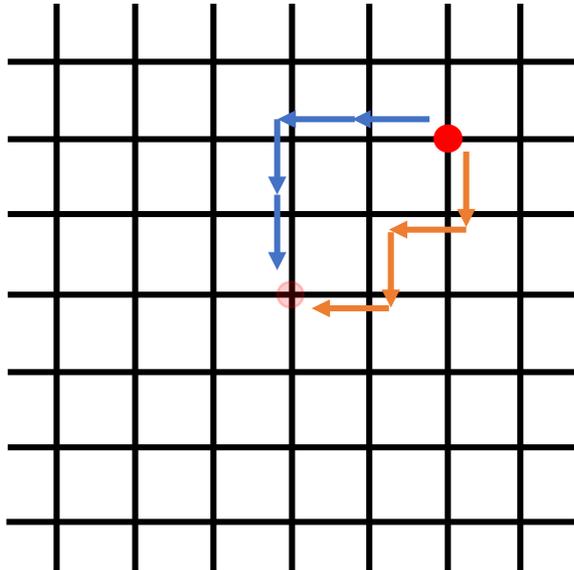
Azuma's Inequality in Action



After i steps, use X_i to denote
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How large is X_n ?

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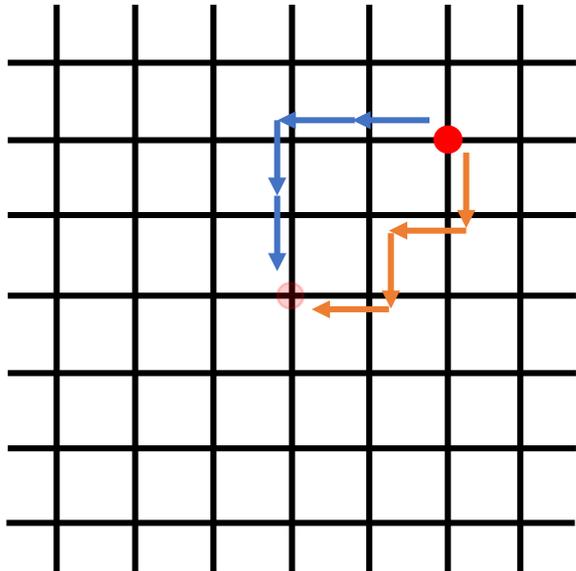
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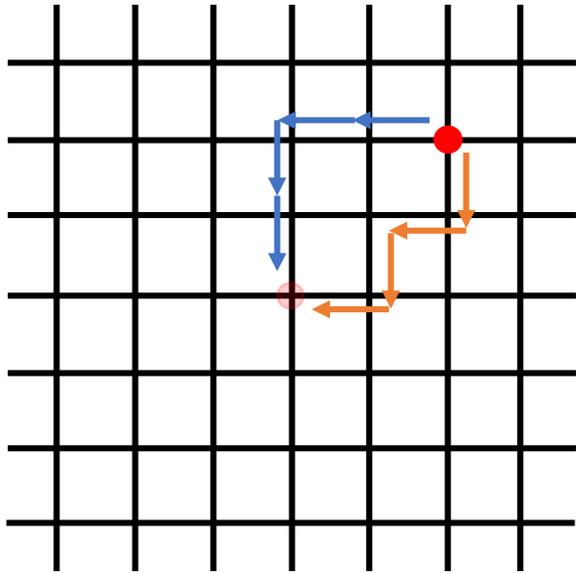
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We know $X_0 = 0$, and $|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq 1$

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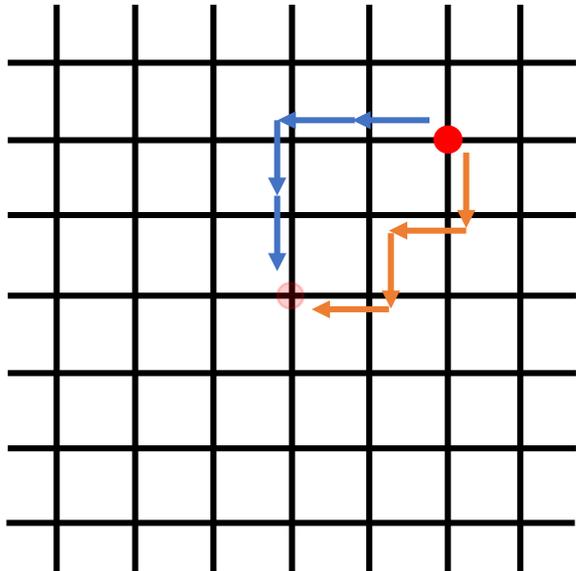
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Within $O(\sqrt{n \log n})$ w.h.p.

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For a sequence of r.v., if in each step:

- * on average make no change to current value (martingale)
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Then final value does not deviate far from the initial.

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Use similar strategy as in proving Chernoff bound:

- (a) Apply generalized Markov's inequality to MGF
- (b)* Bound the value of MGF (use Hoeffding's lemma)
- (c) Optimize the value of MGF

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Define $Y_i = X_i - X_{i-1}$, it is easy to see $\mathbb{E}(Y_i | \mathbf{X}_{i-1}) = 0$.

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$$\mathbb{P}(X_n - X_0 \leq -t) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{k=1}^n c_k^2}\right)$$

Proving Azuma's Inequality

Let X_0, X_1, \dots be a martingale such that for all $k \geq 1$,

$$|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq c_k$$

Then,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n - X_0 \geq t) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{k=1}^n c_k^2}\right)$$

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???

let $X'_i = -X_i$

$$\mathbb{P}(X_n - X_0 \leq -t) = \mathbb{P}((-X'_n) - (-X'_0) \leq -t) = \mathbb{P}(X'_n - X'_0 \geq t) \leq \dots$$

Generalized Martingales

A sequence of random variables Y_0, Y_1, \dots is a martingale with respect to the sequence X_0, X_1, \dots if for all $i \geq 0$,

- Y_i is a function of X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i
- $\mathbb{E}(Y_{i+1} \mid X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i) = Y_i$

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betting on a fair game

X_i : gain/loss of the i^{th} bet

Y_i : wealth after the i^{th} bet

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betting on a fair game

X_i : gain/loss of the i^{th} bet

Y_i : wealth after the i^{th} bet \leftarrow martingale (since game is fair)

Generalized Azuma's Inequality

Let Y_0, Y_1, \dots be a martingale with respect to X_0, X_1, \dots such that for all $k \geq 1$,

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Azuma's Inequality

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots
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then $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

generalization

Generalized Azuma's Inequality

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|Y_k - Y_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|Y_n - Y_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = X_{i-1}$$

generalization

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots

$$Y_i = f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i)$$
$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = Y_{i-1}$$

Doob Sequence

The Doob sequence of a function f with respect to a sequence of random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n is

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E} (f(X_1, \dots, X_n) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i)$$

In particular,

$$Y_0 = \mathbb{E} (f(X_1, \dots, X_n)), \text{ and } Y_n = f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

Doob Sequence

$$f(\text{coin}, \text{coin}, \text{coin}, \text{coin})$$

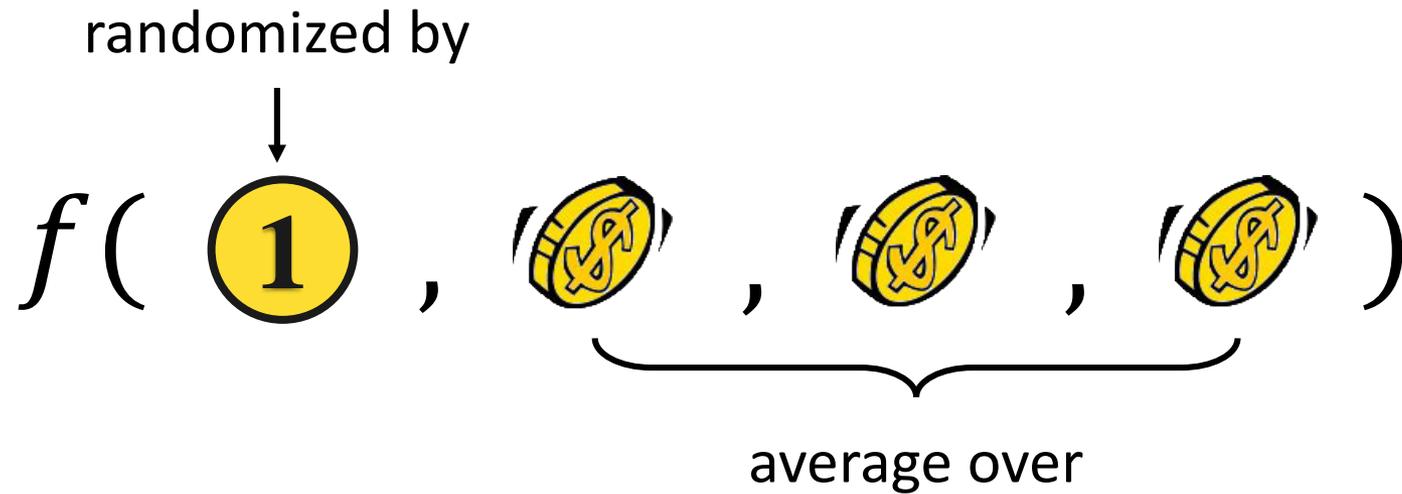
Doob Sequence

$$f\left(\underbrace{\text{coin}, \text{coin}, \text{coin}, \text{coin}}_{\text{average over}}\right)$$

no information

$$\mathbb{E}(f)$$

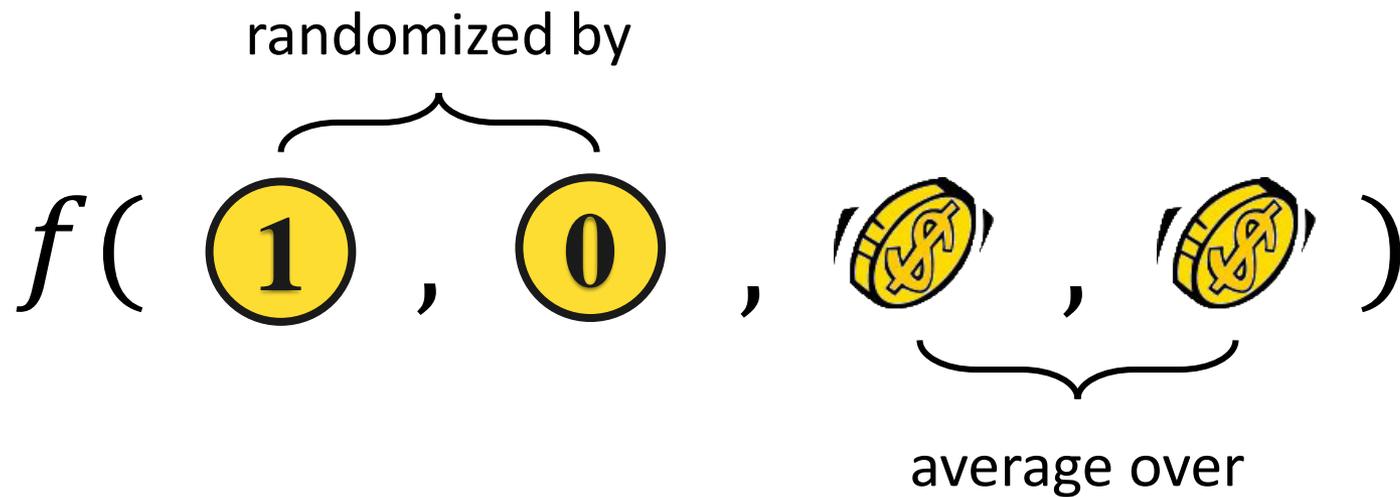
Doob Sequence



no information

$$\mathbb{E}(f) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f | \mathbf{X}_1)$$

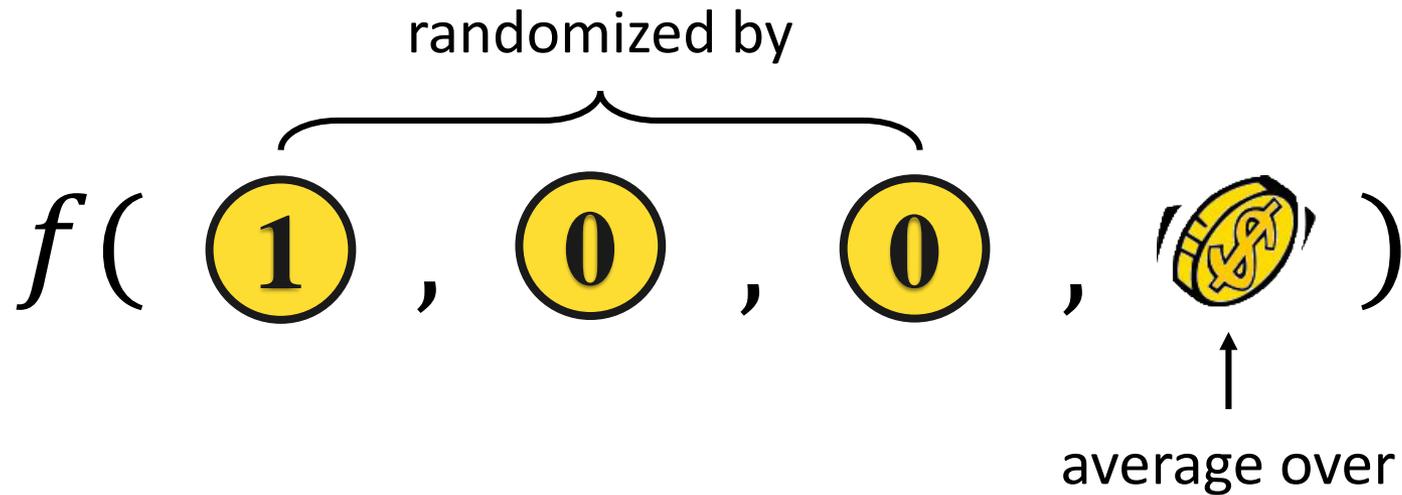
Doob Sequence



no information

$$\mathbb{E}(f) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f | \mathbf{X}_1) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f | \mathbf{X}_2)$$

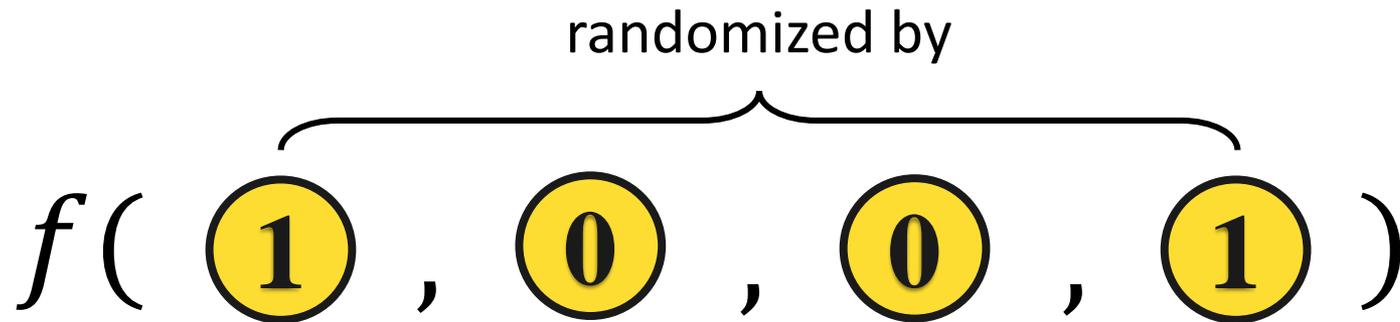
Doob Sequence



no information

$$\mathbb{E}(f) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f|\mathbf{X}_1) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f|\mathbf{X}_2) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f|\mathbf{X}_3)$$

Doob Sequence



no information

full information

$$\mathbb{E}(f) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f|\mathbf{X}_1) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f|\mathbf{X}_2) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f|\mathbf{X}_3) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}(f|\mathbf{X}_4) = f(\mathbf{X}_4)$$

Doob Martingale

The Doob sequence of a function f with respect to a sequence of random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n is

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(X_1, \dots, X_n) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i)$$

The Doob sequence of a function f is a martingale. That is,

$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = Y_{i-1}$$

Doob Martingale

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Doob Martingale

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$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i \mid \mathbf{X}_{i-1}) = \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}_n) \mid \mathbf{X}_i) \mid \mathbf{X}_{i-1})$$

$$= \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}_n) \mid \mathbf{X}_{i-1})$$

$$\mathbb{E}(Y \mid \mathbf{Z}) = \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(Y \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) \mid \mathbf{Z})$$

Doob Martingale

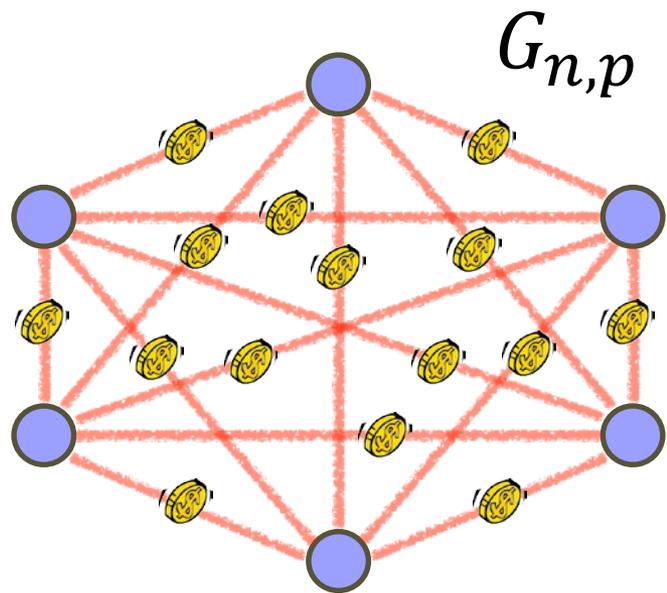
The Doob sequence of a function f with respect to a sequence of random variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n is

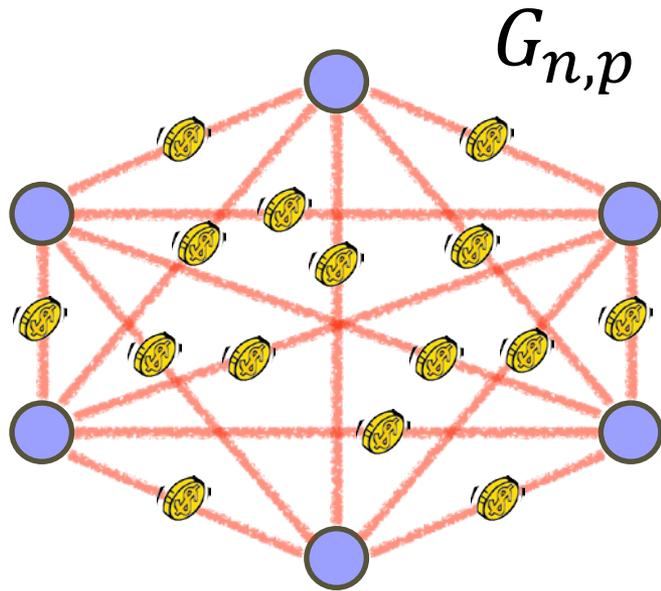
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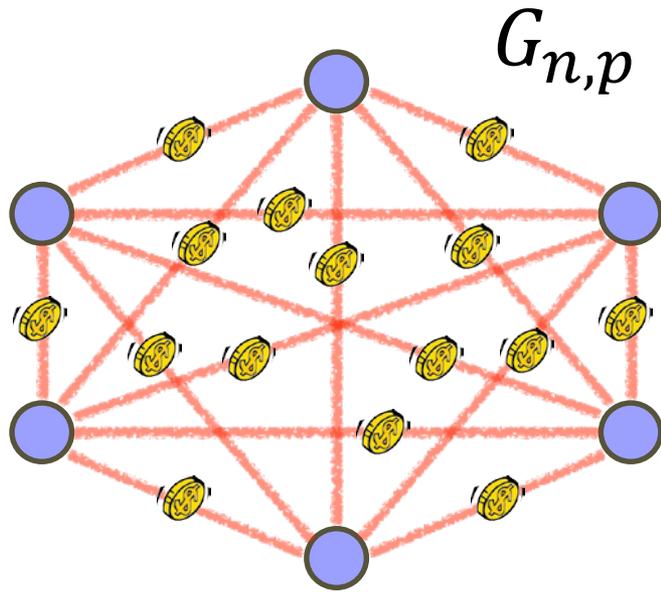
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(Y_i \mid \mathbf{X}_{i-1}) &= \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}_n) \mid \mathbf{X}_i) \mid \mathbf{X}_{i-1}) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}_n) \mid \mathbf{X}_{i-1}) \\ &= Y_{i-1} \end{aligned}$$





Graph parameter: $f(G)$

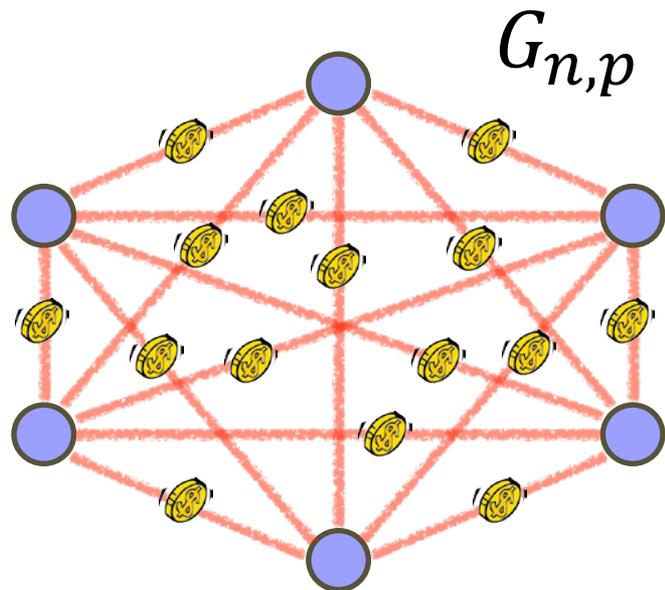
Example: components number,
chromatic number,
diameter



Graph parameter: $f(G)$

Example: components number,
chromatic number,
diameter

numbering all vertex pairs: $1, 2, 3, \dots, \binom{n}{2}$

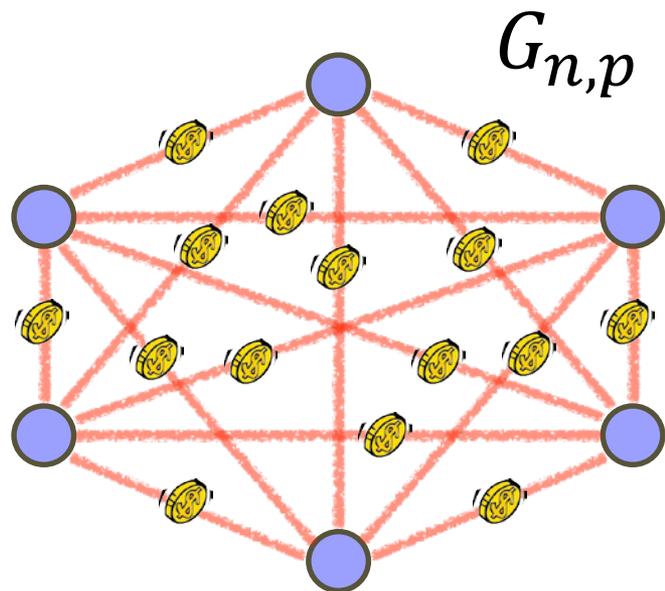


Graph parameter: $f(G)$

Example: components number,
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Define i.r.v. $I_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{edge } j \in G \\ 0 & \text{edge } j \notin G \end{cases}$



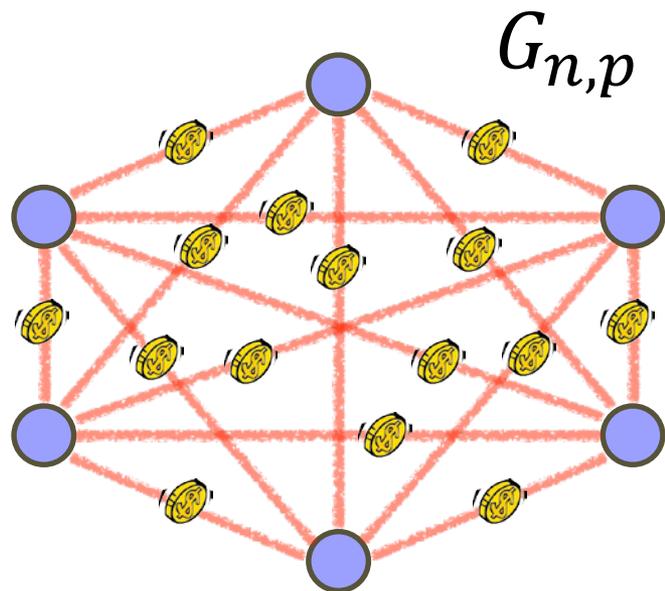
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$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(G) | I_1, \dots, I_i)$$



Graph parameter: $f(G)$

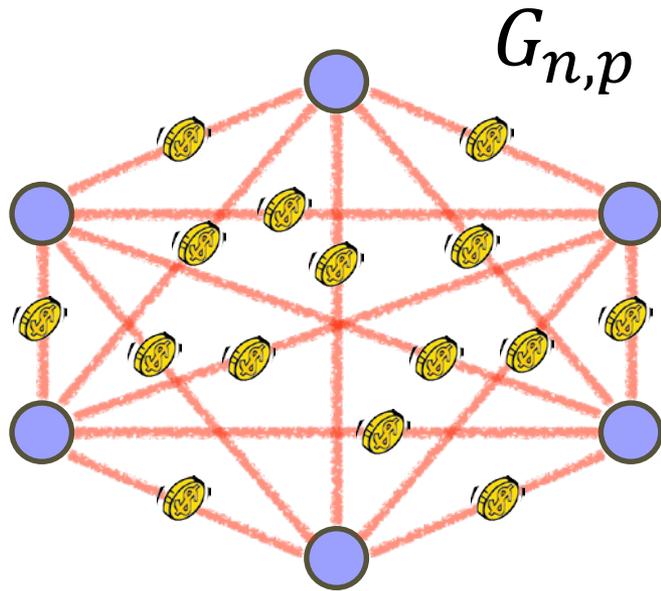
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Define i.r.v. $I_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{edge } j \in G \\ 0 & \text{edge } j \notin G \end{cases}$ $Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(G) | I_1, \dots, I_i)$

$Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_{\binom{n}{2}}$ is a Doob sequence, called **edge exposure martingale**

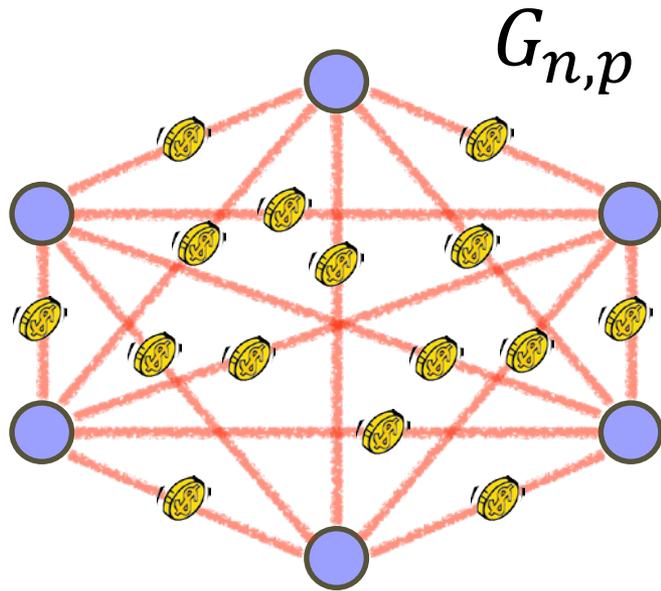
In particular, $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(f(G))$, and $Y_{\binom{n}{2}} = f(G)$



Graph parameter: $f(G)$

Example: components number,
chromatic number,
diameter

numbering all vertices: $1, 2, 3, \dots, n$

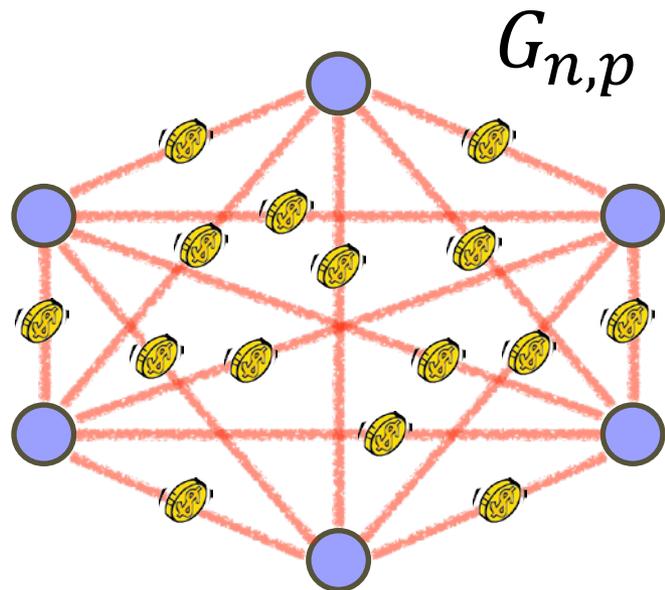


Graph parameter: $f(G)$

Example: components number,
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X_i : subgraph of G induced by the first i vertices



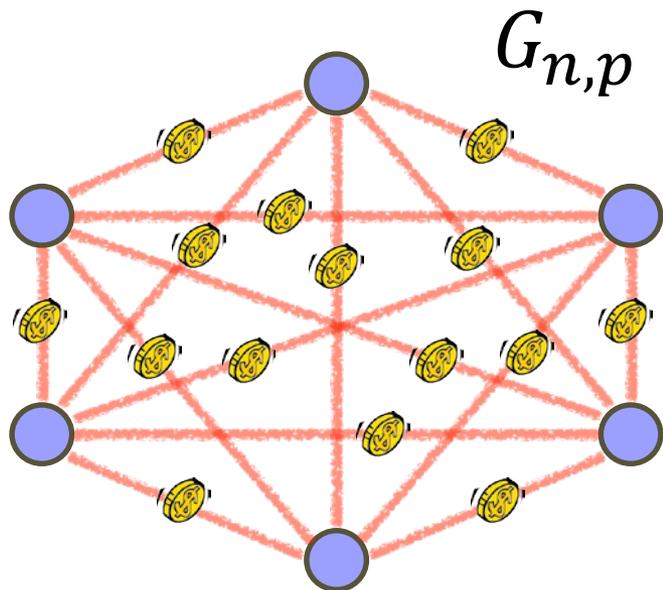
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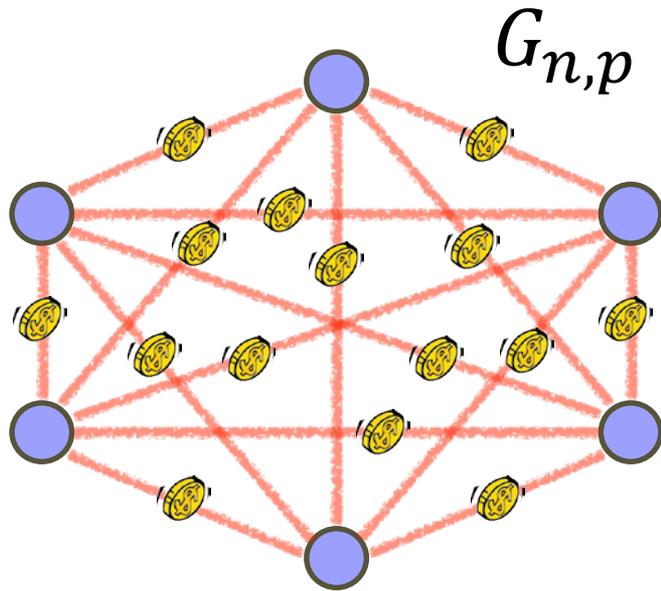
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In particular, $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(f(G))$, and $Y_n = f(G)$



chromatic number

$$\chi(G)$$

is the **smallest** number of colors
to **properly** color G

numbering all vertices: $1, 2, 3, \dots, n$

X_i : subgraph of G induced by the first i vertices

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i)$$

Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n is a Doob sequence (vertex exposure martingale)
In particular, $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))$, and $Y_n = \chi(G)$

Generalized Azuma's Inequality in Action

Concentration of Chromatic Number

chromatic number $\chi(G)$

X_i : subgraph of G induced by the first i vertices

$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i)$

Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n a Doob martingale: $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))$, and $Y_n = \chi(G)$

Generalized Azuma Concentration

Let Y_0, Y_1, \dots be a martingale with respect to X_0, X_1, \dots
such that for all $k \geq 1$,

$$|Y_k - Y_{k-1}| \leq c_k$$

Then,

$$\mathbb{P}(|Y_n - Y_0| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{k=1}^n c_k^2}\right)$$

chromatic number

X_i : subgraph of G induced by the first i vertices

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G) | X_1, \dots, X_i)$$

Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n a Doob martingale: $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))$, and $Y_n = \chi(G)$

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chromatic number

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Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n a Doob martingale: $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))$, and $Y_n = \chi(G)$

A new vertex can always be given a new color!

Generalized Azuma Concentration

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chromatic number

X_i : subgraph of G induced by the first i vertices

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Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n a Doob martingale: $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))$, and $Y_n = \chi(G)$

A new vertex can always be given a new color!

$$|Y_i - Y_{i-1}| \leq 1$$

Generalized Az Concentra

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chromatic number

X_i : subgraph of G induced by the first i vertices

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G) | X_1, \dots, X_i)$$

Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_n a Doob martingale: $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))$, and $Y_n = \chi(G)$

A new vertex can always be given a new color!

$$|Y_i - Y_{i-1}| \leq 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}(|\chi(G) - \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))| \geq t\sqrt{n}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(|Y_n - Y_0| \geq t\sqrt{n}) \leq 2e^{-t^2/2} \end{aligned}$$

Tight Concentration of Chromatic Number

Theorem [Shamir & Spencer (1987)]:

Let $G \sim G(n, p)$, then:

$$\mathbb{P}(|\chi(G) - \mathbb{E}(\chi(G))| \geq t\sqrt{n}) \leq 2e^{-t^2/2}$$

Azuma's Inequality

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

generalization

Generalized Azuma's Inequality

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|Y_k - Y_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|Y_n - Y_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = X_{i-1}$$

generalization

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots

$$Y_i = f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i)$$
$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = Y_{i-1}$$

Azuma's Inequality

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

generalization

Generalized Azuma's Inequality

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|Y_k - Y_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|Y_n - Y_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = X_{i-1}$$

generalization

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots

$$Y_i = f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i)$$
$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = Y_{i-1}$$

special case

Doob martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n) | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})$$

Azuma's Inequality

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

generalization

Generalized Azuma's Inequality

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots
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martingale X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = X_{i-1}$$

generalization

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots

$$Y_i = f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i)$$
$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = Y_{i-1}$$

special case

Doob martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n) | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})$$

applied in random graphs

vertex exposure martingale

Azuma's Inequality

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

generalization

Generalized Azuma's Inequality

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|Y_k - Y_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|Y_n - Y_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

Sample Application:
Tight Concentration of
Chromatic number

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = X_{i-1}$$

generalization

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots

$$Y_i = f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i)$$
$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = Y_{i-1}$$

special case

Doob martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n) | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})$$

applied in random graphs

vertex exposure martingale

Doob Martingale + Generalized Azuma's Inequality

- for a function of (potentially dependent) r.v.:

$$f(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$$

- define corresponding **Doob martingale**:

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(X_1, \dots, X_n) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i)$$

in particular, $Y_0 = \mathbb{E}(f(X_1, \dots, X_n))$ and $Y_n = f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$

- as long as the **differences** $|Y_i - Y_{i-1}|$ are **bounded**
- **generalized Azuma's inequality** implies $|Y_n - Y_0|$ is bounded

$f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is tightly concentration to its expectation

The Method of Averaged Bounded Differences

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ and let f be a function of X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n satisfying that, for all $1 \leq i \leq n$,

$$| \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) | \leq c_i$$

Then,

$$\mathbb{P}(|f(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}))| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2}\right)$$

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Doob Martingale

The Method of Averaged Bounded Differences

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ and let f be a function of X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n satisfying that, for all $1 \leq i \leq n$,

$$| \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) | \leq c_i$$

Then,

$$\mathbb{P}(|f(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}))| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2}\right)$$

Doob Martingale + Generalized Azuma's Inequality

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Then,

May be hard to check!

$$\mathbb{P}(|f(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}))| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2}\right)$$

$$| \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) | \leq c_i$$

Lipschitz Condition

$$|\mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})| \leq c_i$$

A function $f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ satisfies the *Lipschitz condition* with constants c_i where $1 \leq i \leq n$, if

$$|f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, x_n) - f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, y_i, x_{i+1}, x_n)| \leq c_i$$

Average-case:

$$| \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_i) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) \mid X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) | \leq c_i$$

Worst-case:

A function $f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ satisfies the *Lipschitz condition* with constants c_i where $1 \leq i \leq n$, if

$$\begin{aligned} & | f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, x_n) - \\ & | f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, y_i, x_{i+1}, x_n) | \leq c_i \end{aligned}$$

The Method of Bounded Differences

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be n independent random variables and let $f(\mathbf{X})$ be a function satisfying the Lipschitz condition with constants c_i where $1 \leq i \leq n$, then:

$$\mathbb{P}(|f(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}))| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2}\right)$$

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ded Differences

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be n **independent** random variables and let $f(\mathbf{X})$ be a function satisfying the **Lipschitz condition** with constants c_i where $1 \leq i \leq n$, then:

$$\mathbb{P}(|f(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}))| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2}\right)$$

Lipschitz condition

+

Independence



bounded averaged differences
 $|\mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X})|X_1, \dots, X_i) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X})|X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})| \leq c_i$

Azuma's Inequality

martingale X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|X_k - X_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X_0| \geq t) \leq \dots$

generalization

Generalized Azuma's Inequality

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots
with $|Y_k - Y_{k-1}| \leq c_k$,
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martingale X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = X_{i-1}$$

generalization

martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots w.r.t. X_0, X_1, \dots

$$Y_i = f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_i)$$
$$\mathbb{E}(Y_i | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}) = Y_{i-1}$$

special case

Doob martingale Y_0, Y_1, \dots

$$Y_i = \mathbb{E}(f(X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n) | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})$$

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The Method of Averaged Bounded Differences

$f(\mathbf{X})$ satisfying $|\mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) | X_1, \dots, X_i) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}) | X_1, \dots, X_{i-1})| \leq c_i$,
then $\mathbb{P}(|f(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}))| \geq t) \leq \dots$

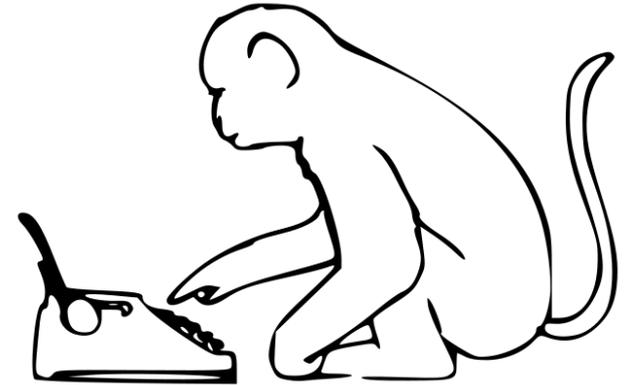
independence + Lipschitz condition

The Method of Bounded Differences

$\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ are independent r.v., $f(\mathbf{X})$ satisfying the Lipschitz condition,
then $\mathbb{P}(|f(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbb{E}(f(\mathbf{X}))| \geq t) \leq \dots$

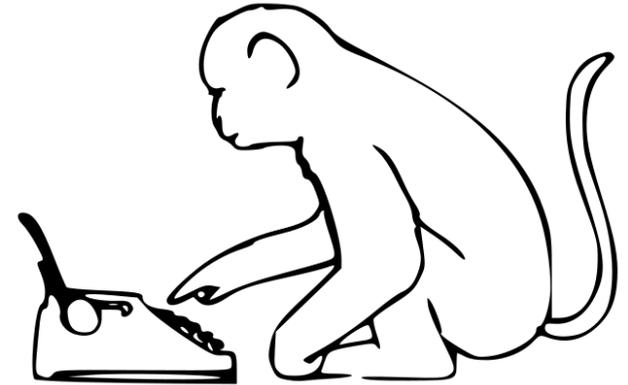
The Method of Bounded Differences in Action: Pattern Matching

- a random string of length n
- a pattern of length k
- # of matched substrings?



The Method of Bounded Differences in Action: Pattern Matching

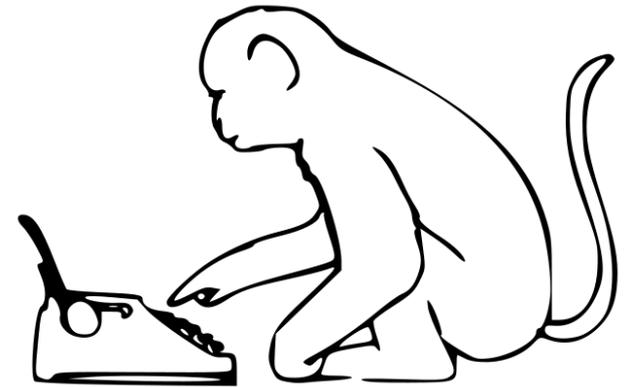
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an alphabet Σ with $|\Sigma| = m$, a fixed pattern $\pi \in \Sigma^k$

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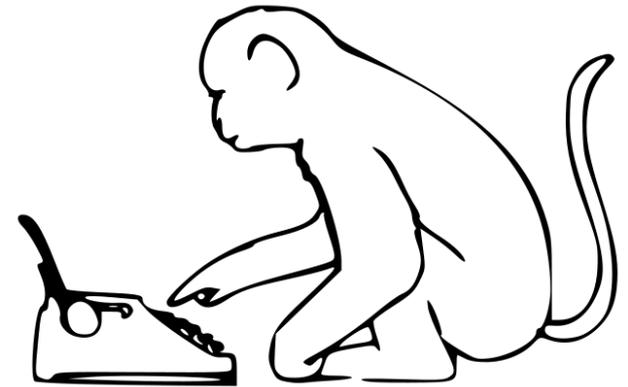
an alphabet Σ with $|\Sigma| = m$, a fixed pattern $\pi \in \Sigma^k$

independently and uniformly generate: $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \in \Sigma$

let Y be number of substrings π in $\langle X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \rangle$

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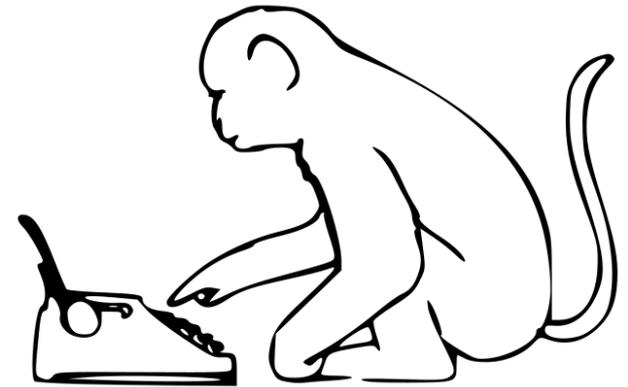
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$$\mathbb{E}(Y) = (n - k + 1) \left(\frac{1}{m} \right)^k$$

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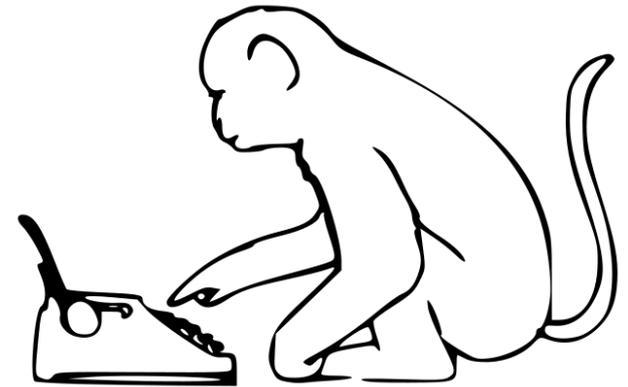
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Deviation?

The Method of Bounded Differences in Action: Pattern Matching

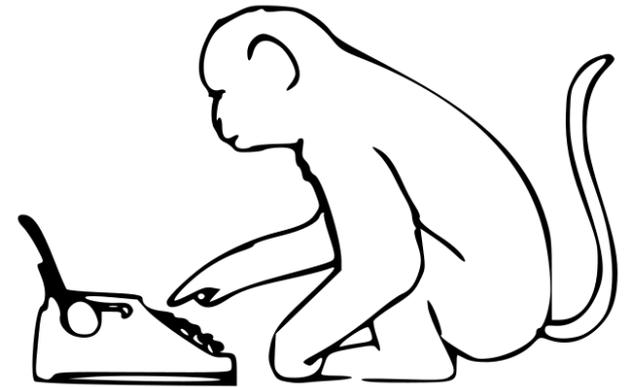
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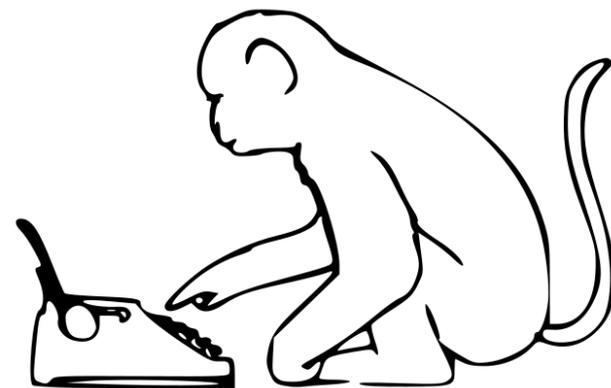
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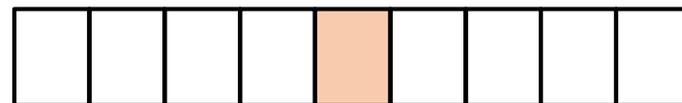


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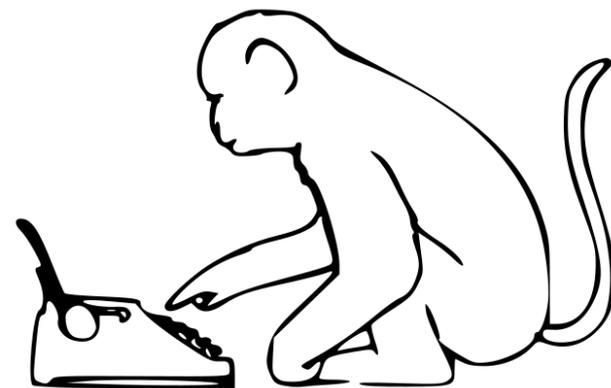
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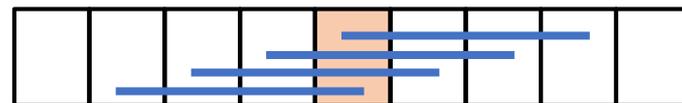


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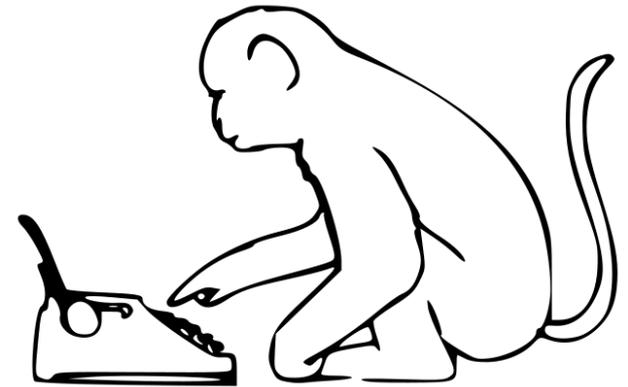
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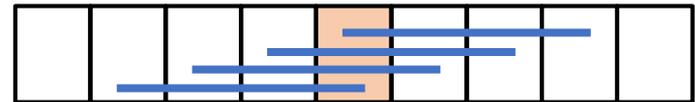
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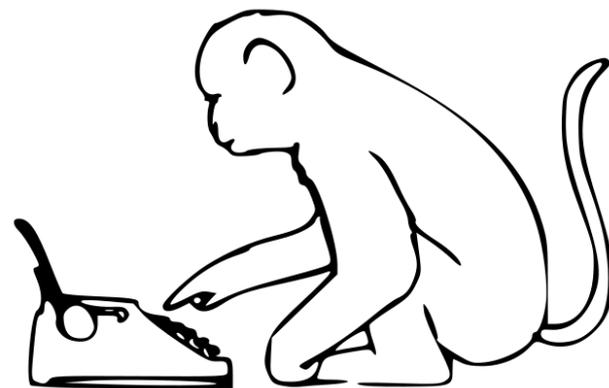
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changing any X_i changes f for at most k

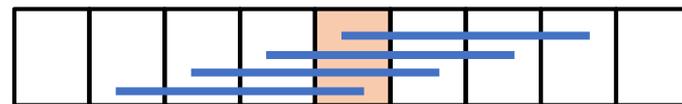
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changing any X_i changes f for at most k

$$\mathbb{P}(|Y - \mathbb{E}(Y)| \geq tk\sqrt{n}) \leq 2e^{-t^2/2}$$

Concentration Inequalities

Question: probability that X deviates more than δ from expectation?

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For independent r.v. $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \in \{0, 1\}$,
let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, and $\mu = \mathbb{E}(X)$, then:

for any $\delta > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq (1 + \delta)\mu) \leq \left(\frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \right)^\mu$$

for $0 < \delta < 1$,

$$\mathbb{P}(X \leq (1 - \delta)\mu) \leq \left(\frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1-\delta)^{(1-\delta)}} \right)^\mu$$

Concentration Inequalities

Question: probability that X deviates more than δ from expectation?

For independent r.v. $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \in \{0, 1\}$,

let X For independent r.v. X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n where $X_i \in [a_i, b_i]$,

for an let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, then:

for any $t > 0$,

for 0
$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq \mathbb{E}(X) + t) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{2t^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (b_i - a_i)^2}\right)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(X \leq \mathbb{E}(X) - t) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{2t^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (b_i - a_i)^2}\right)$$

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Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be n independent random variables and let $f(\mathbf{X})$ be a function satisfying the Lipschitz condition with constants c_i where $1 \leq i \leq n$, then:

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There are more of them!